



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Richard W. Nykamp et al
Serial No. : 10/628,963
Filing Date : July 29, 2003
For : COVER FOR METAL OFFICE FURNITURE
Examiner : Catherine A. Simone
Art Unit : 1772
Attorney Docket No. : 76764.83552-001

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Responsive to the Official Action mailed May 18, 2005, the period for response having been extended by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time until September 18, 2005, the following remarks are respectfully submitted.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above identified patent application is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3, 11-12, and 17-19 remain in the application. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 are respectfully traversed.

I. Background

Metal office furniture is one of the backbones of the office environment. Exemplary pieces include file cabinets, desks, and drawer pedestals. Metal office furniture is fabricated of steel and then painted, making it both functional and durable.

Several negative issues are related to metal office furniture. First, the appearance